

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

STAT

Legislative Counsel

OLC 78-3512/a

Honorable Alan Cranston
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cranston:

Thank you for your letter of 22 November 1978 enclosing correspondence from [redacted] California. They enclosed an article from Paraplegia News comparing payments made to disabled veterans with compensation reportedly made to a KGB defector.

I would certainly agree that in light of the sacrifices made and the hardships endured by disabled combat veterans, the payments they receive are small indeed. I am gratified, however, at efforts, which this Agency supports, to promote employment opportunities for the handicapped.

At the same time, it is difficult to put a price on the value of information provided by defectors from inside closed societies such as the U.S.S.R. Persons who come out of such a society have unique insights into their Government available only through human sources. They invariably leave their country at great personal risk.

I trust this information will aid you in responding to your constituent. In accordance with your request, the enclosure to your correspondence is enclosed.

Sincerely,

15/

Frederick P. Hitz

Enclosure

Distribution:

- Original - Addressee w/encl.
- 1 - O/PA w/o encl.
- 1 - OLC Subject w/o encl.
- 1 - OLC Chrono w/o encl.

OLC:RJK:hms (30 November 1978)